An Use case for VM's Power-hungry Compute Clusters

Cees de Laat

University of Amsterdam





Power is a big issue

- UvA cluster uses 30 kWh
- 1 kWh ~ 0.1 €
- per year
- cooling

->26 k€/y

- -> 39 k€/y
- Emergency power system $->60 \text{ k} \in/\text{y}$
- per rack 10 kWh is now normal



Power outages are a big problem

- on average about one outage per year
 - once the generator not starting/taking over
 - recently explosion of cable -> generator fine!
- battery power for 5 minutes, generator to take over
- priorities for emergency power/cooling



VM opportunity





The VMs that are live-migrated run an iterative search-refine-search workflow against data stored in different databases at the various locations. A user in San Diego gets hitless rendering of search progress as VMs spin around

Other VM opportunity

- run grid in a grid
- every project its own favorite suite on favorite Linux version
 - Glite in EGEE
 - Teragrid
 - Rock-Roll in OptIPuter
- Solution -> run entire system+app in VM as stupid app on other grid



